AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-16. (canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A fire-resistant composition comprising at least:

a) a star polyamide-based polyamide matrix comprising at least macromolecular chains of formula (I):

$$R_1-[-A-X-(-Y-R_2-Z-)_n-R_3]_m \qquad (I)$$

~~And~~ and, optionally, macromolecular chains of formula (II):

$$R_1-[-Y-R_2-Z-]_p-R_3 \qquad (II)$$

wherein:

Y is the radical:  when X and Z represent the radical:  ;

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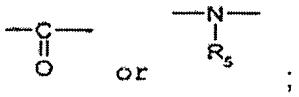
A is a covalent bond or an aliphatic hydrocarbon-based radical optionally having hetero atoms and having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms;

R_1 is a linear or cyclic, aromatic or aliphatic hydrocarbon-based radical having at least 2 carbon atoms, and optionally having hetero atoms;

R_2 is an aliphatic or aromatic, branched or unbranched hydrocarbon-based radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

R_3 and R_4 <u>are</u> independently ~~represent~~ <u>selected from the group consisting of</u> hydrogen, an -OH radical and/or a hydrocarbon-based radical having at least one group:



;

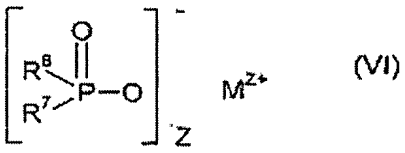
R_5 represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbon-based radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

m represents an integer between 3 and 8;

n represents an integer between 50 and 200; and

p represents an integer between 50 and 200; and

b) a fire-resistant composition comprising at least; a compound (F1) of formula (VI):



(VI)

wherein:

R_6 and R_7 are identical or different and represent a linear or branched alkyl chain having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and/or an aryl radical;

M ~~represents~~ <u>is selected from the group consisting of</u> a calcium, magnesium, aluminum and/or zinc ion;

Z represents 2 or 3; and

a compound (F2), which is a product of reaction between phosphoric acid and melamine and/or a product of reaction between phosphoric acid and a condensed melamine product.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, comprising from 30% to 99% by weight of the star polyamide relative to the total weight of the composition.

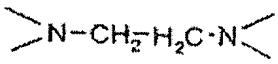
19. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, comprising from 1% to 70% by weight of the fire-resistant system relative to the total weight of the composition.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein the radical R_1 is a cycloaliphatic, arylaliphatic or linear aliphatic group, with a mass ratio between the weight of polymer chains of formula (I) and the total weight of polymer chains of formulae (I) and (II) being between 0.10 and 1.

21. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein the radical R_1 is an aromatic radical, with a mass ratio between the weight of polymer chains of formula (I) and the total weight of polymer chains of formulae (I) and (II) being less than 1.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein R_2 is a pentamethylene radical.

23. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein R_1 represents a cyclohexanonetetrayl, 1,1,1-triylpropane, 1,2,3-triylpropane or:



24. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein A represents a methylene, polymethylene ~~and~~ or polyoxyalkylene group.

25. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein the phosphinic acid of compound F1 is dimethylphosphinic acid, ethylmethylphosphinic acid, diethylphosphinic acid, methyl-n-propylphosphinic acid, or a mixture thereof.

26. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein the compound F2 is melamine polyphosphate, melam polyphosphate, melem polyphosphate, or a mixture thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 17, further comprising from 0 to 80% by weight of reinforcing fillers relative to the total weight of the composition.

28. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 27, wherein said reinforcing fillers are glass fibers, carbon fibers, mineral fibers, ceramic

fibers, heat-resistant organic fibers, polyphthalamide fibers, mineral fillers, wollastonite, kaolin, clay, silica, mica, mineral nanofillers, montmorillonite or α-Zr phosphate.

29. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 17, further comprising fire-resistant agents or fire-resistant-system synergists ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of inorganic compounds and/or mineral products.

30. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 29, wherein the fire-resistant agents or fire-resistant-system synergists are zeolites, ceramic powder, magnesium hydroxide, hydrotalcites, magnesium carbonates, zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate, zinc sulfide, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, red phosphorus, organonitrogen compounds of the triazine class, melamine, melamine cyanurate, melamine phosphates, polyphosphates, pyrophosphates ~~ororganophosphorous~~ or organophosphorous acids.

31. (Previously Presented) A process for manufacturing a fire-resistant composition, comprising the steps of:

1) mixing together:

a) a star polyamide-based polyamide matrix comprising at least macromolecular chains of formula (I):

$$R_1-[-A-X-(-Y-R_2-Z-)_n-R_3]_m \qquad (I)$$

and optionally macromolecular chains of formula (II):

$$R_4-[-Y-R_2-Z-]_p-R_3 \qquad (II)$$

wherein:

Y is the radical:  when X and Z represent the radical:  ;

Y is the radical:  when X and Z represent the radical:  ;

A is a covalent bond or an aliphatic hydrocarbon-based radical optionally having hetero atoms and having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms;

R_1 is a linear or cyclic, aromatic or aliphatic hydrocarbon-based radical having at least 2 carbon atoms and optionally having hetero atoms;

R_2 is an aliphatic or aromatic, branched or unbranched hydrocarbon-based radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

R_3 and R_4 independently represent hydrogen, an -OH radical and/or a hydrocarbon-based radical having at least one group:

 or  ;

R_5 represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbon-based radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

m represents an integer between 3 and 8;

n represents an integer between 50 and 200;

p represents an integer between 50 and 200; and

b) a fire-resistant composition comprising at least:

a compound (F1) of formula (VI):

wherein:

R_6 and R_7 are identical or different and represent a linear or branched alkyl chain having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and/or an aryl radical;

M represents a calcium, magnesium, aluminum and/or zinc ion;

Z represents 2 or 3; and

a compound (F2), which is a product of reaction between phosphoric acid and melamine and/or a product of reaction between phosphoric acid and a condensed melamine product; and

2) recovering the fire-resistant composition obtained in step 1).

32. (Currently Amended) An article made by the process of forming a composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein said forming ~~comprising~~ is an extrusion process, a molding process, an injection process or a spinning process.